Desalination Plants

1660. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered installing desalination plants in order to fight water scarcity;

(b) whether Government plan to import the know-how for setting up such plants ; and

(c) if not, what are the alternative sources for solving the water problem?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) Desalination plants based on indigenous know-how, to provide potable water supply to areas having brackish water have been set up in four States for demonstration purposes.

Production of wheat, rice, pulses in Uttar Pradesh

1661. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total production of wheat, rice and pulses in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and the current year ;

(b) the per capita production of these foodgrains in Uttar Pradesh during the above period ;

(c) whether there has been any decrease in the per capita production ; and

(d) what are the steps taken by Government to increase the per capita production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) A table giving total production of wheat, rice and pulses in Uttar Pradesh during the years 1982-83 to 1985-86, along with per capita production, is as under :

Production of Wheat, Rice & Pulses in Uttar Pradesh

Year	Production (lakh tonnes)			Per capita Production (Kg.)		
	Wheat	Rice	Pulses	Wheat	Rice	Pulses
1982-83	152·6	56·4	25.4	132	49	22
1983-84	161·2	67·8	24·9	136	57	21
1984-85	159·7	71·8	27·6	132	60	23
1985-86 (anticipated)	164·8	82·0	26·7	134	67	22

It would thus be seen that whereas per capita production of rice has increased, that of wheat and pulses have remained more or less steady.

(d) The Government have been taking a number of steps to increase the production and productivity of various crops in the State. These include a special Rice Production Programme covering one-fifth of the blocks for improving the productivity of rice and an Integrated Pulses Development Programme for increasing the production of pulses in the State.

1662. [*Transferred to the 13th August*, 1986].